

1 **Amendment to the Claims**

2 **In the Claims:**

3 Please amend Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10-11, 14, 16-19, 21-24, and 39 as follows:

4 1. (Currently Amended) A method for lossless editing of a media object that comprises an
5 image, comprising the steps of:

6 (a) accessing data defining the media object to produce a representation of the
7 media object;

8 (b) enabling a user to selectively edit the representation of the media object by
9 applying a modification to the representation, wherein the step of applying the modification
10 comprises the step of cropping the representation of the media object, and then producing metadata
11 that define the modification, said metadata including a size and a position of a crop outline on the
12 representation of the image to indicate limits of a cropped image;

13 (c) rendering a modified media object in accord with the modification to the
14 representation; and

15 (d) storing the metadata that define the modification applied to the representation
16 in association with the media object, without modifying the data that define the media object.

17 2. (Previously Canceled).

18 3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 38~~1~~, further comprising the steps of:

19 (a) enabling the user to again selectively edit the representation of the media
20 object, by applying a further modification that changes the limits of the cropped image on the
21 representation of the media object;

22 (b) updating the metadata to define the modification by indicating new limits of
23 the cropped image; and

24 (c) rendering the modified media object in accord with the further modification.

25 4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 38~~1~~, wherein the image is stored in a Joint
26 Photographic Experts Group (JPEG) format.

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1 5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of storing the metadata comprises the
2 step of storing a stream of the metadata in a substorage of an object linking and embedding (OLE)
3 file.

4 6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 381, wherein the step of rendering comprises
5 the step of rendering the cropped image without portions of the representation that lie outside the
6 limits of the cropped image.

7 7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, further comprising the step of
8 compressing data for a portion of the media object within the limits of the cropped image.

9 8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 381, further comprising the step of storing the
10 cropped image as a JPEG stream of data in a substorage of an OLE file.

11 9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the OLE file defines a collection of one or
12 more images.

13 10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 381, further comprising the step of providing
14 input to the metadata for storage that defines at least one of an image title, an image number, an
15 image rotation, an image width, an image height, and an image source file location for the media
16 object.

17 11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 381, further comprising the step of
18 perceptibly differentiating a first portion of the representation of the image from a second portion of
19 the representation of the image, wherein the first portion and second portion are demarcated by the
20 crop outline.

21 12. (Currently Canceled).

22 13. (Previously Canceled).

23 14. (Currently Amended) A system for lossless editing of a media object that comprises an
24 image, comprising:

- 25 (a) a processor;
- 26 (b) a display in communication with the processor;
- 27 (c) an input device in communication with the processor; and
- 28 (d) a memory in communication with the processor, said memory storing the
- 29 media object and machine instructions that cause the processor to:

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1 (i) access data defining the media object, to produce a representation of
2 the media object;

3 (ii) enable a user to employ the input device to selectively edit the
4 representation of the media object by applying a modification to the representation, the modification
5 including cropping the representation of the media object, and in response to the modification,
6 producing metadata that define the modification, said metadata including a size and a position of a
7 crop outline on the representation of the image to indicate limits of a cropped image;

8 (iii) render a modified media object in accord with the modification applied
9 to the representation; and

10 (iv) store the metadata that define the modification applied to the
11 representation in association with the media object, without modifying the data that define the media
12 object.

13 15. (Previously Canceled).

14 16. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 4014, wherein the machine instruction
15 further cause the processor to:

16 (a) enable a user to employ the input device to again selectively edit the
17 representation of the media object, by applying a further modification that changes the limits of the
18 cropped image on the representation of the media object appearing on the display;

19 (b) update the metadata to define the modification by indicating new limits of the
20 cropped image; and

21 (c) render the modified media object on the display in accord with the further
22 modification.

23 17. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 4014, wherein the image is stored in the
24 memory in a Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG) format.

25 18. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 4014, wherein the metadata are stored in the
26 memory as a stream of data in a substorage of an object linking and embedding (OLE) file.

27 19. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 4014, wherein the machine instructions
28 further cause the processor to render the cropped image without portions of the representation that lie
29 outside the limits of the cropped image.

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1 20. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 19, wherein the machine instructions further
2 cause the processor to compress data for a portion of the media object within the limits of the cropped
3 image.

4 21. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~40~~14, wherein the machine instructions
5 further cause the processor to store the cropped image as a JPEG stream of data in a substorage of an
6 OLE file.

7 22. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~40~~14, wherein the OLE file defines a
8 collection of one or more images.

9 23. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~40~~14, wherein the machine instructions
10 further cause the processor to provide input to the metadata for storage in the memory, wherein said
11 input defines at least one of an image title, an image number, an image rotation, an image width, an
12 image height, and an image source file location for the media object in the memory.

13 24. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~40~~14, wherein the machine instructions
14 further cause the processor to perceptibly differentiate a first portion of the representation of the
15 image from a second portion of the representation of the image, wherein the first portion and second
16 portion are demarcated by the crop outline.

17 25. (Previously Presented) A method for lossless modification of a media object, comprising
18 the steps of:

19 (a) accessing data defining the media object to produce a representation of the
20 media object;

21 (b) enabling a user to perform a first modification of the representation of the
22 media object, producing metadata the define the first modification;

23 (c) rendering the first modification of the representation;

24 (d) storing the metadata that define the first modification applied to the
25 representation of the media object in association with the data that define the media object, without
26 modifying the data that define the media object;

27 (e) subsequently accessing the media object and metadata;

28 (f) rendering the representation of the media object as defined by the metadata;

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1 (g) enabling the user to further modify the first modification of the representation
2 of the media object, to produce a second modification and producing metadata that define the second
3 modification; and

4 (h) storing the metadata that now define the second modification of the media
5 object, without modifying the data that define the media object.

6 26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the representation of the media
7 object comprises one of a static image, and a video image, and an audible sound.

8 27. (Previously Canceled).

9 28. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein the metadata comprises dimensions of a
10 crop outline.

11 29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 25, further comprising the step of
12 perceptibly differentiating a first portion of the representation of the media object from a second
13 portion of the representation of the media object to aid the user to one of perform the first
14 modification and further modify the first modification.

15 30. (Original) A machine-readable medium having machine instructions for performing the
16 steps of Claim 25.

17 31. (Previously Presented) A system for lossless modification of a media object, comprising:

18 (a) a processor;

19 (b) an input device in communication with the processor; and

20 (c) a memory in communication with the processor, said memory storing data
21 defining the media object and machine instructions that cause the processor to:

22 (i) access the data defining the media object to produce a representation of
23 the media object;

24 (ii) enable a user to employ the input device to perform a first modification
25 of the representation of the media object, producing metadata that define the first modification;

26 (iii) render the first modification of the representation;

27 (iv) store the metadata that define the first modification applied to the
28 representation of the media object in the memory in association with the data that define the media
29 object, without modifying the data that define the media object;

30 (v) subsequently access the media object and metadata in the memory;

1 (vi) rendering the representation of the media object as defined by the
2 metadata;

3 (vii) enabling the user to further modify the first modification of the
4 representation of the media object, to produce a second modification and producing metadata that
5 define the second modification; and

6 (viii) storing the metadata that now define the second modification of the
7 media object in the memory.

8 32. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 31, wherein the representation of the media
9 object comprises one of a static image, and a video image, and an audible sound.

10 33. (Previously Canceled).

11 34. (Original) The system of Claim 31, wherein the metadata comprises dimensions of a
12 crop outline.

13 35. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 31, wherein the machine instructions further
14 cause the processor to perceptibly differentiate a first portion of the representation of the media object
15 from a second portion of the representation of the media object to aid the user to one of perform the
16 first modification and further modify the first modification.

17 36. (Currently Canceled)

18 37. (Currently Canceled)

19 38. (Currently Canceled)

20 39. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having machine instructions for
21 performing the steps of Claim ~~38~~1.

22 40. (Currently Canceled)

23 41. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the modification comprises at
24 least one of the steps of cropping, rotating, and trimming an image that comprises the representation
25 of the media object.

26 42. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 31, wherein the modification comprises one
27 of cropping, rotating, and trimming an image that comprises the representation of the media object.